**IT Applications Unit 3**

**Ch 1 Problem Solving**

**Information Systems**

List the 5 elements of an information system.

* Software
* Hardware
* Data
* Personal

The purpose of an information system is to manipulate input into something else.

The advantages of using an information system in a supermarket: it’s faster, more reliable and easer.

**Software:**

Software is instructions that manipulate data into information in computers.

Describe the role of the following four main types of software:

* 1. Operation or system software controls the actual operations of the computer hardware
     1. A peripheral device is any external device that is attached to a computer eg printer/scanner.
     2. A device driver is a small program that informs the operating system how to interact with the hardware.
  2. Application software provides support to computer users.

Off-the-shelf software is written for the mass market and custom-made software is made for a specifically written for a specific purpose and it cost more.

* + 1. Your rights of using software that you’ve purchased are only for privet use. You can’t copy the software or give it to someone.
  1. Utility software is a type of system software that performs a particular task such as scanning disks.

**Hardware:**

describe the role, using examples of the following hardware devices

* 1. An input device allows a user to enter data into a computer. Eg keyboards, webcams.
  2. Output devices transmit and communicate information to users through devices such as printers and monitors.
  3. System unit consists of variety of components that comprise the ‘brain’ of the computer. Eg the motherboard.
     1. A RAM is a chip in the motherboard
  4. Storage devices are a place that you can store information on for latter use. Eg hard disks.
  5. Communication devices allows computer to communicate with other computers.

**Data:**

Data is raw and unorganised where information is readable and organised.

**Personnel**

Personnel are also known as ‘Users’

**Procedures**

Procedures are a series of steps that are followed so that tasks are performed uniformly and consistently.